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The Highlander

Haliburton County's Independent Newspaper

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A visitor checks out bronze sculptures in Oscar Ross's *10,000 Hours* exhibit at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. See story on page 9. Photo by George Farrell.

Fishstock Music Festival put on hold

Organizers plan to bring back event in 2013

By Mark Arike

The Fishstock committee of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) has decided to postpone what would have been their second annual music festival.

"We are disappointed, as there was great support from various rock legends including April Wine, Coney Hatch, David Wilcox and new acts like Walk Off the Earth in addition to a number of local artists," said Alex Bell, co-producer of the event, in a May 4 press release.

In March, the committee had learned that they were unsuccessful in obtaining funding from Celebrate Ontario to grow their music festival.

"We had applied for \$40,000, which was the maximum in our category," said John Teljeur, vice president of the HHOA and co-producer of the event. "That was a big disappointment because we had planned to use that funding to expand the event, bring in bigger bands and make it a signature community event."

Teljeur added that the current uncertainty in the economy also had an effect on the various corporate sponsors that had expressed an interest in participating in the event.

The current uncertainty in the economy also had an effect on the various corporate sponsors that had expressed an interest in participating in the community event.

"Last year, we had a lot of corporate interest in getting involved with 2012, but that changed as time went on and the economy became more uncertain."

Teljeur said that at last year's event – which was the first of its kind – around 30 local sponsors were secured.

"This year, we wanted to focus on driving money in from outside of the community. As everyone knows, this area suffers from donor fatigue."

According to Bell, plans are already underway to bring the event back in 2013.

continued on page 2

Locals against Tim Hortons location

Residents at public meeting concerned about safety

By Will Jones

Almost everyone agreed that they want a Tim Hortons in Haliburton Village; the contentious issue was where it should be put.

The public planning meeting held by Dysart Council on May 7 was packed with local residents. They filled the room and spilled out into the corridor, all wanting to add to the debate that currently rages about the potential location of the new Tim Hortons in Haliburton.

Pat Martin, Dysart et al's Director of Planning and Development, addressed the room, reading the application for rezoning of the site on Cty Rd. 21, before running through a range of objections sent into council by residents. A total of 16 separate letters, one of which included a survey of residents against the development, listed a variety of reasons not to build the drive-through and restaurant on the proposed site. These included: increased traffic and danger to road users, litter, light and noise pollution, 24-hour operation, impact upon wildlife and pest problems, blasting, loss of privacy and the impact on neighbouring property values.

The first person to take the floor was Gerry Walker, current owner of the land on which the TDL Group wish to build the new Tim Hortons. He told how he'd been approached over

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Dysart et al

"We've worked hard with local planners to identify the issues and potential problems and alleviate them."

Leo Palozz
Planner.

continued from page 1

12 months ago by TDL about the site, which is currently zoned Suburban Residential but is slated as Commercial in the municipality's Official Plan.

"Tim Hortons has been looking for a site in Haliburton for four to five years now and it has put in proposals on two sites previously, but they didn't work out," said Walker. "The new restaurant will create 40 local jobs and we all know that Tim Hortons supports local events; they sponsored a kids' bonspiel here a couple of years ago."

Walker was followed by Leo Palozzi, planner with TDL. He outlined the proposed development and explained how the company had been working with local planners at the municipal and county level to minimize the disruption that the restaurant might be perceived to cause.

"What you see now is very different to what was initially proposed," he said, gesturing to the site plan. "We've worked hard with local planners to identify the issues and potential problems and alleviate them."

Palozzi went on to explain how the development had been redesigned to move all customer parking, drive-through activity and garbage to the rear of the site; to include the planting of mature trees and installation of lighting designed to reduce the amount of light spillage from the site to an absolute minimum; and to ensure that vehicles entering and exiting the site would cause a minimum of congestion on the road.

"Yes," he said, "Tim Hortons is a 24-hour operation, but we envision the main hours of business to be in the mornings. We're not anticipating that this restaurant will be busy late at night."

The application for rezoning had first come before council on March 26. At that meeting, Martin recommended that the proposal move forward to the public meeting and approval of building permits be subject to the developer meeting the concerns of neighbours.

The floor was opened to the public and Patty Brydon, a neighbour of the proposed location, addressed council.

"We're looking forward to Tims coming to Haliburton, but the proposed site is the wrong place to put it," she said. "There are a number of reasons that I could go into, but let's take the most important: traffic."

Brydon spoke of three accidents that have befallen her and neighbours in the vicinity of the proposed site. She expressed concern that tractor trailers would park on the roadside, reducing visibility and causing a hazard. She worried about

the noise and hazards caused by ATV and snowmobile traffic and how vehicles pulling boats would negotiate turning off of the road at this spot.

"Tim Hortons needs to be put in a better location," she said, repeating the mantra following each catalogue of concerns that summed up what the vast majority of over 40 attendees agreed with. Brydon was cheered when she sat down.

In a meeting that lasted almost two hours, the public meeting committee, made up of councilors Steve Pogue, Susan Norcross, Walt McKechnie and Martin as acting secretary, listened to upwards of 20 individuals putting forward their concerns about the project.

Palozzi did his best to reassure the audience that the restaurant would be built with their concerns in mind, but at the same time he asked council to consider reducing the standard setback requirement. He also stated that he felt walking along the roadside would be dangerous.

"I wouldn't do it, especially not after dark, there's no sidewalk," he said.

The remark sparked swift response from the floor by pedestrians who currently use the shoulder of the already busy road to walk to the grocery store and are concerned that the extra traffic created by the Tim Hortons would cause a safety hazard and a pollution issue.

Pogue had to remind the audience on numerous occasions that the topic of discussion was a rezoning application and that actions such as blasting were not considered relevant at this time. He also pointed out that the issue of road widening at the site would have to be addressed by county officials, as the road comes under their jurisdiction rather than that of the municipality.

"Thank you everyone," said Pogue, concluding the meeting. "We've listened to all of the feedback here today and we'll take it on board. As a councilor, I'm surprised that they are not calling for a left turn lane or a right turn off lane, but it sounds like the issue is ongoing. I'd like you to know that we are here to hear all of your input and concerns and we will be sending a message to the county that these [traffic and the road widening] have been brought up because I for one share your concerns."

After calling the public discussion to a close, councilors conferred and agreed that they should defer the rezoning application back to council to consider the outcome of the traffic study; to consider whether to insist on the standard setback for the building; and to discuss whether the siting of a fast food restaurant on Cty Rd. 21 was in keeping with the original intent of the Official Plan and its mandate to expand

Moose FM sold

Vista Radio Ltd. takes over radio chain

By Douglas Pugh

The Moose FM chain of radio stations has been sold, announced a press release from its new parent company Vista Broadcast Group Inc.

While announcing that they will be taking over the 24 stations of the Haliburton Broadcast Group, Vista Radio Ltd. are themselves the subject of a takeover by Westerkirk Capital Inc. Vista Radio have a further 38 radio stations spanning across British Columbia, Alberta and the North West Territories.

"I could not have picked a better successor to continue the legacy we started at Haliburton," said Christopher Grossman, CEO and president of the Haliburton Broadcasting Group, in a press release. "Vista cares in the same way as Haliburton about its employees, listeners and advertisers. Vista will take our radio business to the next level and that will create tremendous opportunities for our employees."

Grossman founded Haliburton Broadcasting Group in 1997. Today, the company operates 24 radio stations throughout Ontario, primarily under the Moose FM brand, including the local 93.5 FM.

As of press time, both transactions were awaiting approval from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).

Sponsors needed to make festival a reality

continued from page 1

"We have no plans of sitting back, we're already planning next year," said Bell. "This is the same thing that happened to other events such as *Big Music Fest* in Belleville and Owen Sound. They took a year off and came back this year, better than ever."

In a phone interview, Teljeur indicated that the event would be held over the weekend after Canada Day.

"It would be a two-and-a-half day event," he said, adding that he would like to see 3,000-5,000 people in attendance, 50 percent of whom would come from outside of the county.

The plan would be to once again hold the event at the fish hatchery, which is located off Cty Rd. 1, just outside of Haliburton Village.

Fishstock Music Festival was created by the HHOA to raise awareness and generate funds for them and their various programs. This includes the annual stocking of 50,000 fish into the county's lakes. Last year, the event partnered with other community groups such as SIRCH and Community Care to assist them with their fundraising efforts.

The HHOA is a non-profit, volunteer group dedicated to supporting and promoting outdoor activities, environmental conservation projects, and tourism in the county.

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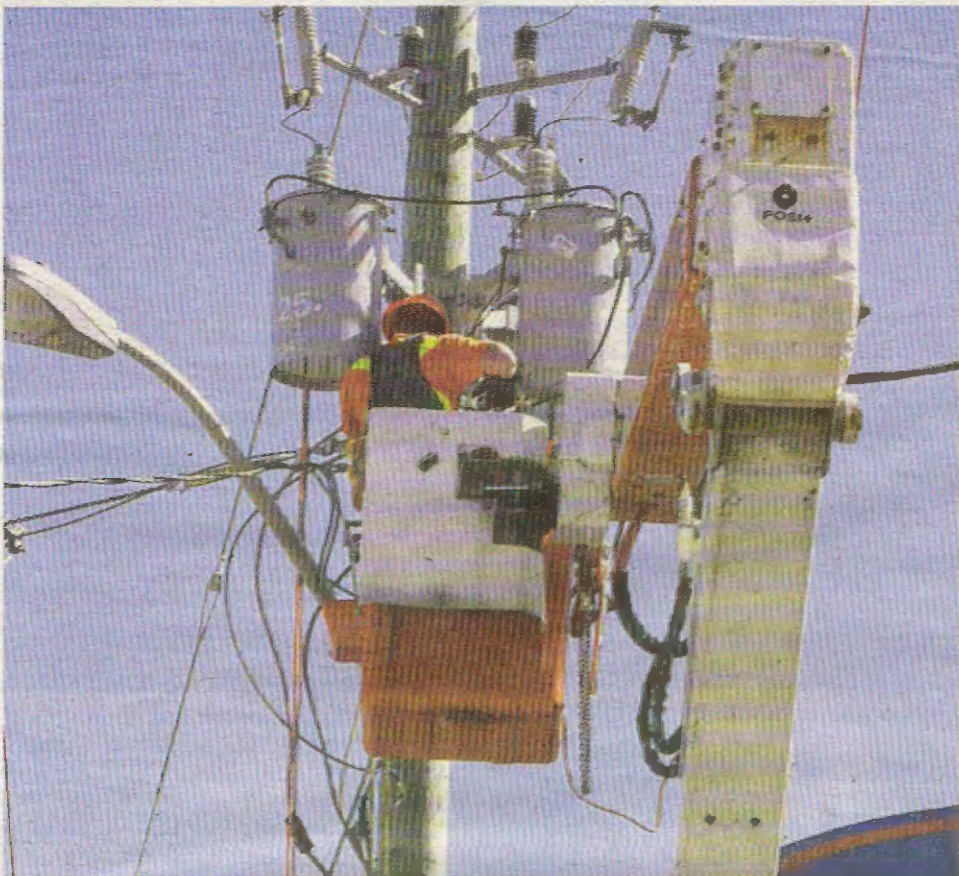
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Dysart et al



One of 30 crew members from several municipalities called in during Sunday's scheduled power outage to ultimately bring overhead wires underground in the town of Haliburton.

Power outage for streetscape work

Hydro expects to finish by May 24


By Lisa Harrison

In one of a series of scheduled power outages, Hydro One crews from as far away as Newmarket worked steadily on Sunday to continue Hydro One's part in the Haliburton beautification project that includes burying hydro lines.

The planned outage began at 8 am and ended at approximately noon.

Hydro is working with local utilities to ultimately replace overhead power lines with underground lines in town. Crews totalling 30 workers from municipalities around the region changed out lines and removed old poles in town and also replaced poles on the main power distribution line that runs along the hill south of Mountain St.

The work started in early February and is expected to be completed by May 24 at the latest, said a Hydro One spokesperson.



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Editorial opinion



The mother of all holidays

By Bram Lebo

In some of my earliest childhood memories, I walk home from school at lunchtime, scramble into the house and sit at the kitchen table as my mother serves me a bowl of hot soup, smiling sweetly as she sits down beside me. I feel a warm glow as we talk about the story our teacher read to us or the award-worthy painting I made.

Actually, that never happened; it was a television commercial, designed to imprint in our minds the idea that canned soup meant motherhood and home, so a person would feel warm and fuzzy buying it in the supermarket to eat alone later. My reality was a lunchbox, though one assembled with as much creativity as one of those ads — by, of course, my mom.

Whatever forms our actual lunches took back then, for many of us, the images in those commercials have come to define a long-ago time of idealized motherhood, a time when there was always someone at home to comfort and feed us. With few exceptions, however, it's likely that such a time never really existed; those commercials left a few things out.

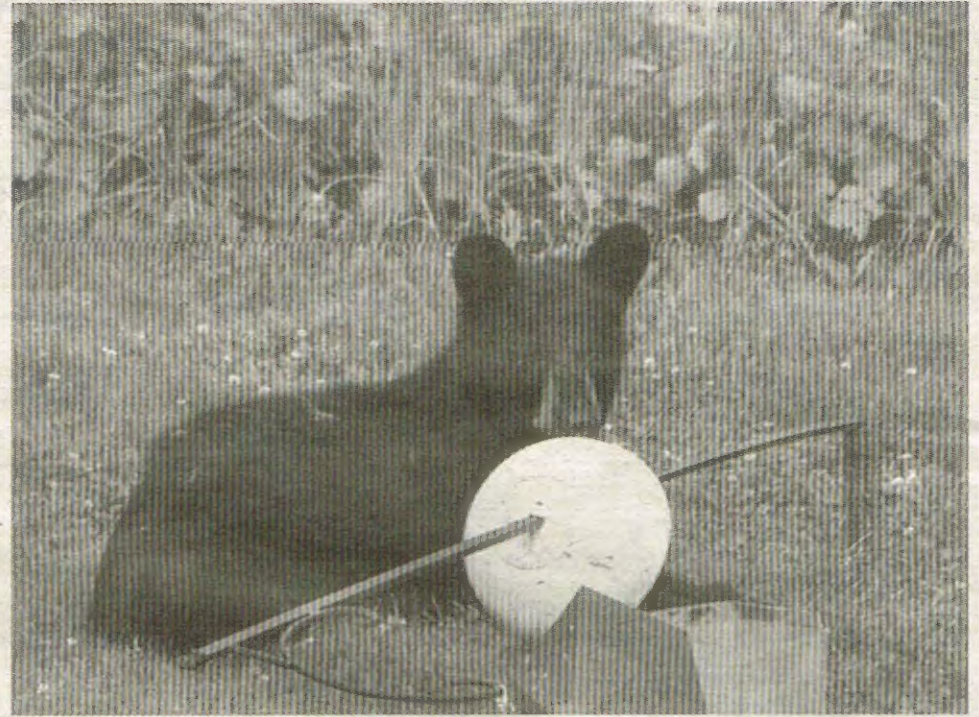
They neglected to show mom scrubbing bathrooms and doing the laundry, paying bills and vacuuming the carpet before putting on the soup. They also left out the run to the grocery after lunch and the time spent preparing, serving and then cleaning up after the evening meal. And then there were baths, changes, stories and bedtime. Yes, there were other commercials for those things, but they always seemed to gloss over the hard work that went into getting that high gloss floor.

We weren't happier back then — television was. But we remember it as if it were actually true and put unrealistic expectations on ourselves to provide that kind of environment in our own homes. Ironically, such unrealistic expectations can make us unhappy. So might be the emphasis on busy schedules — practices, lessons, play dates, outings. Time was we were told to go out and play; be home when the street lights come on. Did we suffer from that kind of free-range childhood? Should more mothers be giving themselves a break?

Today, moms still do a lot of housework, but now most work out of the house too, at one or even two jobs. And yes, dads help out, but studies on the subject show women still doing the majority of child-rearing and housekeeping in two-parent families, in most cases. That's not to knock dads, many of whom put in their fair share. But when dad falls asleep in front of the game, somebody's going to have to make supper and the survey says it's going to be good old mom.

Sadly, not everyone has good memories or a good relationship with their mother. The idea of that one person always there for you, a fierce protector and nurturer, is so strong in our culture that for some it's hard, or impossible, to live up to. A few neglect this duty entirely, sometimes with tragic results.

Most, however, come through. Motherhood in its many forms is hard work and — Hallmark's business model aside — a good reason to say thank you, once a year at the very least.



"This is a small bear that was in our yard at 7:00 am eating bird feed. It had no worries of people, about twenty feet from house." Photo by Ray Woodward, Minden.

Letters to the Editor

African Film Night a success

Dear Editor:

The Haliburton Highlands Grannies would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate our 5th anniversary with us at our African Film Night fundraiser on Friday, April 27.

We had a very successful night and a huge thanks goes to the Minden United Church for hosting our event, especially Rev. Max Ward (our technical advisor), Diane Welborn and Pat Thomett, and Irene Moxam of the UCW. Our Granny helpers, who are too many to name, were integral to the success of the event. The authentic African refreshments, organized by our own Norma Isaacs, were all prepared and served by Granny members and the silent auction items were also generously donated by our globetrotting Grannies and others in the community.

The evening's entertainment was fabulous. Outloud Womyn were so inspirational and their rendition of Siyahumba was wonderful. Bazza Hayward and Joe Truss from the Abbey North Drummers were the perfect accompaniment. The children from Heritage Ballet were so cute and entertaining — Aaliyah and Brittany Imesuen, Emily Alexander and Kirsty Cook. Thanks so much to Julie Barban for your participation.

Of course, our special guests were terrific too. Tammy Ebuon and Zahra Mohamed from the Stephen Lewis Foundation spoke eloquently and from the heart — I always love stories which help to frame what we do in the Grandmothers Campaign. And lastly, Nancy and Rodger Cummins, who cottage on Gull Lake, were wonderful to come up from the city to be with us and introduce the film starring their son-in-law, Chris Mburu.

It was a wonderful night and a very successful fundraiser. Thanks to our very generous community for their support.

Peggy Cassils, Spokesperson
Haliburton Highlands Grannies

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Letters to the Editor

'The Sexy Senior Citizen' Worthy educators deserve recognition says thanks

Dear Editor:

In your April 26 edition of *The Highlander*, your talented feature writer, George Farrell, did a story on me and my near 90 years of knocking around in this crazy world while still managing to maintain my sanity.

I am a rather humble guy, but I'm having trouble staying that way now that I've been portrayed as some sort of sexy celebrity with my lady friends now vying for my attention and gushing all over me. Thanks to your newspaper and George's way with words, I've heard nothing but rave reviews of your singular presentation for which I thank you both from my heart.

Mike Napolitano
Gravenhurst

Trashing our natural beauty

Dear Editor:

Coffee beats water and water is way ahead of beer. Interestingly, soft drinks are trailing badly this year.

These are the results from our survey of containers gathered this past week from the shoulders of our country road.

We are still amazed that some people think the world is their trash can or ashtray and there is no consequence in tossing litter, or in one case, bags of garbage from their car as they enjoy the beauty of the Highlands. That beauty won't last long with that kind of abuse.

Jack and Pat Brezina,
Minden

Dear Editor:

Your editorial of April 12, *Taxing Times*, maintains that we "still" profit from excellent health and education systems. This is true and what is also true is that the public must work to encourage the continuation of such an excellence.

This is why the Trillium District School Board will hopefully go the other half of the way in its decision to present Aboriginal culture to the students in its care.

As too often, the residential school debate has focused solely on the negative aspects, justice now requires that the positive aspects be also part of the discussion and positive spokespeople should be encouraged by school administrators to come before the students.

David Bouchard (the April 12 edition of *The Highlander*), a prolific Métis author, within his presentation of Aboriginal culture, has deemed necessary to place the blame on residential schools for "a lot of aboriginals (not knowing) their stories."

It might also be said to our local students that many Aboriginals ended up well prepared to function – that was the intent of the government – in a Canadian culture that has benefitted with the input of both French and English rich and varied cultures.

The Truth and Reconciliation board that is now touring the country, at great expense to the taxpayers, does not appear to be helping out the Trillium Board, for example, in seeking "the other half."

In view of the fact that some 87,000 former students of residential schools have already received tens of thousands of dollars each for their "sufferings," is the "truth" not already known?

Another fact that has not come out of the many gripe sessions since the "scandal" broke out is that 12 percent of residential students in the Arctic were non-Aboriginal. And they never received a cent in "compensation."

"Reconciliation" as well will not readily come about when

the public realizes (one can fool some people only some of the time) that taxpayers have gladly footed the bill for bringing back to health many of the brutalized and neglected Aboriginal children and without a single "thank you" in return.

Michael Bates, local author (see his books at Dysart Library) and retired principal from residential schools, recently had a letter published by the *Haliburton Echo*. In his letter, some of the "other half" of the debate has come forward to enlighten the objective among tabloid readers.

Rodney A. Clifton, education professor at the University of Manitoba, has also come out with his version of what really happened within the walls of Aboriginal residential schools.

Professor Clifton, just as Mr. Bates, should know what he is talking about: among other postings he spent a year working and taking copious notes at Inuvik's Stringer Hall School where he met Aboriginal, and other, staff who talked with the children in their native languages; where the young local nurse – who regularly called in physicians and dentists – had to deal with TB [tuberculosis], infected scalps and bulging appendices in incoming Aboriginal children.

It is hard to imagine that this country's educators – union members as well as board administrators – will continue much longer to tolerate that their colleagues of a generation ago, now many of them grizzled veterans of the classroom, continue to be maligned and persecuted for the selfless years of their life they gave to the welfare of Aboriginal children.

As professor Clifton argued: all school systems – indeed, all systems – have their unworthy individuals who prey on the defenseless and these, as well as the politicians who covered up, should be brought to the law, so the great majority of worthy educators are recognized and thanked... much to the relief of the much-abused taxpayers as well.

Charles Lutz,
Haliburton

Tell us your Opinion

Send your letters to the editor to letters@haliburtonhighlander.ca

The Outsider Raucous Romans and royalty

"YEESH!" I'd never heard the word before but I knew what it meant instantly. Uttered by a burly friend of mine as he staggered down the stairs the morning after the night before, a look of befuddlement on his face, he followed it up by saying, "that was some party, an' boy, am I paying for it now!"

Yes kind reader, it was the *Outsider's* birthday recently and I celebrated in a right royal fashion.

That's 'right royal,' the turn of phrase for having a good time, you understand. I didn't actually celebrate in a royal fashion, with all the pomp and pageantry that I imagine must go into a magisterial birthday party. There was no vintage champagne, no cucumber sandwiches or caviar stacked blinis. We didn't salute the guards, knight anyone, nor wave to applauding crowds from a high balcony in a curiously mechanical manner. Although, now that I come to think about it, there was a tower and some Romans; there were also some lovely chaps and a heated debate about royalty of a Canadian kind. But I'll get to those in a while.

Back to the morning after.

This is the third birthday that I've celebrated since moving to Haliburton County, and the most successful yet. I gauge that by what I now realize is the YEESH effect. My first birthday in Canada was a non-event; having only moved here a few weeks prior, it was just

me, my lovely wife and a very Little Z. The second was better, although the weather conspired against us and that true Canadian bonfire-side celebration was unfortunately curtailed. This year, however, everything went in my favour. The weather was good, the beer tasted sweet and the fire burned bright, on and into the night.

Everything got off to a suitably amiable start. Friends and acquaintances got to know each other over the chink of a bottle or glass and the potluck was devoured with relish (the good homemade stuff rather than the scary green bottles sold in the grocery store!)

As the sun went down, the fire burned higher and we listened to the woodcocks calling. Then the Romans turned up and the party really started. An innocent looking blonde produced them from her bag, stood dangerously close to everyone and still holding one, lit one. The firework – a Roman candle – shot out its colourful birthday salute almost amidst us. People dived for cover. The (not so) innocent blonde laughed maniacally.

"Never played Roman candle baseball?" she inquired, brandishing another firework. The crowd scattered across the garden (sorry, backyard) as her accomplice planted a firework in the ground and lit it. The firework was upside down. It exploded at ground level, singeing the ankles of several short-wearing guests.

I was OK though. I had my chaps on. Yes, chaps, a waxed version of what cowboys wear, which had been donned following a discussion about the proper use of the word 'pants', as opposed to trousers, britches or cargos and the like.

As the night went on, the stack of bottles grew higher and the fireside chatter became more animated. Someone fell over the back of their lawn chair. "HAHAHAHA!"

rang out across the night air. Someone else dropped a large bowl of crisps (sorry, chips) to the ground. Another group "HAHAHAHA!" which was followed by the sound of crunching as the culprit decided crisps with grass in them were better than no crisps at all.

And then it happened. I offended a good portion of the crowd by sniggering at Stompin' Tom Connors singing Bud the Spud (on a smart phone. He wasn't at the party). How was I to know that this country crooner was Canadian royalty!

Oh, but I almost forgot about the tower. When folks saw it they gasped; they whispered to each other and pointed; they drew back in fear or amazement, I know not which. 'Twas a bottle of Black Tower! YEESH!



By Will Jones

Minden Hills

A wave of change for cultural centre

Director returns and new curator hired

By George Farrell

To say that the Minden Hills Cultural Centre has been going through a transition period is an understatement. In the past eighteen months, the director of the centre took a leave of absence for health reasons, the curators of the museum and RD Lawrence Place (RDLP) were both let go and RDLP was closed after an advisory committee of the township decided it was time to rebrand.

Through it all, the indefatigable Laurie Carmount, curator of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (AJG), which is part of the Cultural Centre complex, has worked hard to keep the operation running smoothly. But now it appears as though she'll be getting some much-needed help that will enable her to focus her efforts back on the gallery.

Assistance has arrived in the form of Daniela Pagliaro, who returns from her leave of absence as director of the cultural centre. Her much anticipated return, however, will not immediately see Carmount hand over the

reins of responsibility.

"I'm returning to work gradually to share the duties and Laurie is still the point person," said Pagliaro.

"Yes, I'm still the interim director of the centre as well as the curator of the gallery," Carmount concurs, "but having Daniela back will definitely ease the load for what is going to be a busy summer."

Not all programs are solidified as of yet, but Carmount says they're going to increase the size of the Culture Club for Kids program and include wood carving workshops delivered by "some top-notch members of the Ontario Woodcarving Association."

Additional help for Carmount – and a major step in the restructuring of the cultural centre – comes in the form of Darren Levstek, the new curator of both the museum and RDLP.

Levstek comes to the Highlands from Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). At the ROM, where he started in 2002, Levstek helped to get the artifacts prepared for the new Canadian Gallery, as well as exhibits and the mounting of artifacts throughout the museum.

"Everything from dinosaurs and the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, to the Chinese terra cotta warriors," said Levstek.



A former employee of the Royal Ontario Museum, Darren Levstek is the new curator of both the Minden Hills Museum and RD Lawrence Place. Photo by George Farrell.

Due to cutbacks at the ROM, Levstek's contract was not renewed and Toronto's loss is Minden's gain.

"I always wanted to work at a small museum and Minden's is an absolute hidden gem," he said.

"The glamour of the ROM wears off after a while and a small museum offers me the potential to grow within the community and experience feedback immediately from the many beautiful stories that people tell me," he said. "I see my job as telling stories in a new way and to constantly educate the public about our 19th century pioneer village. I see the RDLP as developing strong stories around the environmental sciences, the wildlife around us and how they affect how we live."

"One idea I have is to use technology by creating downloads for iPhone applications which involve a tour along the boardwalk. The RDLP needs to work in conjunction with the museum and the gallery. It needs to reflect its immediate environment and the tie-in to the boardwalk and we're trying to determine the RDLP's place within the facility by using Lawrence's philosophy as a keystone to plan for the future growth of the place."

Levstek has spoken to Sharon Lawrence, wife of the late Ron Lawrence, who RDLP was named after, to find out more about RDLP.

"She's been wonderful in helping me to find out more about him as a person and that knowledge will help me in shaping the vision of the facility," said Levstek.

Levstek has only been on the job for a month, but he's already determined where some problems lie.

"The collections are my biggest challenge right now," he said. "They need to be brought to museum standards as far as exhibiting, storage, handling and documenting in order to turn this into a true museum."

"Laurie has done an amazing job with the AJG," he added, "and we need the museum at the same level in order to reach a universal narrative for the facility."

The museum and RDLP will have their official 2012 openings on Saturday, May 19, with a couple of surprises.

"We have two pieces that will be part of the permanent exhibit," said Levstek. "They will be located outside on the grounds and they're pieces that have been seen before, but nobody knew what they were. They create a link between the AJG, the RDLP and the museum, but I won't tell you what they are. People will have to come out on the 19th to see for themselves."

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Minden Hills

Enter 'A Night in Rio'

Zumba instructor organizes dance party for a cause

By Mark Arike

Minden is a long ways away from Brazil, but on Friday, May 11 the upper level of the town's community centre will find its way to "A Night in Rio".

The one-night-only event, which starts at 7 pm, will take on a Latin theme complete with salsa lessons, Zumba, games, food and more. Not only is this intended to be a fun and healthy all-ages event, but it's to support a local Relay for Life team on their fundraising quest.

The upcoming dance party is the brainchild of local Zumba instructor and grades 4 and 5 teacher, Jennifer Hicks.

"It's going to be a good way to support the cause and have fun while doing it," said the 24-year-old.

Although Hicks provided Zumba instruction at last year's Relay for Life in Haliburton, she's never walked as a participant. Her motivation to form a team came when cancer hit close to home.

"This year, my aunt had breast cancer and my grandpa was also diagnosed and is in treatment," she said.

If it weren't for cancer research, Hicks believes that things could have been even more difficult for her loved ones.

"I feel like neither of them would have been helped the way that they have been."

Hicks currently has five committed walkers on her team but



Jennifer Hicks leads a Zumba class at the Minden Community Centre. Photo by Mark Arike.

plans on recruiting more in the weeks leading up to the June 8-9 Relay for Life.

As for "A Night in Rio", Hicks predicts a "bright and colourful" event with a "party feel." "Bring your dancing shoes," she said.

Admission is \$10 at the door with proceeds going to Jennifer's team, "The Groovers and The Shakers."

For those who can't attend but would like to make a donation, search "Zumba Instructor Jennifer Hicks" on Facebook or call her at 705-286-3695.

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Highlander arts



Students the stars in Willy Wonka Junior

By Erin Lynch

On May 2 and 3, students at JD Hodgson Elementary School entertained audiences at two sold-out performances of Roald Dahl's *Willy Wonka Junior* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. With the backdrop of a creative set and fantastic costumes, those in attendance were treated to a dazzling array of music and talent.

Oompa loompa doopity doo... Photos by Erin Lynch.



Robbie Hall as Willy Wonka.

Film success for local students

By Douglas Pugh

Doing anything for the first time can be scary. That proved true for students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School who submitted their short animation films to the Toronto International Film Festival's (TIFF) *Next Wave Young Filmmakers Showcase*.

But for students Bethany Little and Kathleen Tedford, the feelings of fear have turned into joy.

That's because the two students recently learned that their joint entry, a short animation called *Born This Way*, was selected out of all the entries from across the province to be shown in the finalists' showcase.

Selected by a highly respected jury of film professionals to get this far, the delighted students have the option to go down to the closed-to-school screening in Toronto on Friday (May 11) or the public showing on Saturday (May 12). Both screenings will take place at the TIFF Bell Lightbox.

As of press time, it is unsure how many will make the trek down to the screenings.

"We'll be doing a screening at the school on Thursday at lunch time," said teacher Karen Gervais. "This is such a big thing for the students. We've never tried entering the competition before... and then we find out that we're in the finals."

The short animation only runs for one minute, but is painstakingly put together frame by frame. The subject matter of *Born This Way* is homophobic bullying and the joy that comes from love and acceptance.

"Tammy Rea from Highlands Media Arts has been an immense help to the whole project," said Gervais. "She provided guidance to the students all the way through, from concept to finishing it off. The girls are grade 10 students and they're in a category that ranges from grades 9 to 12."

The finalists are all in with the chance of winning a prestigious Gertrude Lowengren Award, bringing with it a \$1,000 bursary. The winners will be revealed after the public screening at the Lightbox in Toronto on May 12. Finalists are also offered the opportunity to take part in a 'Talent Lab' organized by TIFF.



A still from the film *Born This Way* by Bethany Little and Kathleen Tedford.

State of the Arts Canada's next top (funding) model



By Victoria Ward

During my evolution into a professional artist, I have found that much of the work that I do to pay my bills, while creating the work that I want, involves understanding some extremely dull processes usually involving grant applications and taxation. Had I known this was to be the case, I would never have quit the economic courses I was taking at university to fulfill my degree requirements. But I was young and believed that I would, by my age, have a grand career with apartments in Rome and Bruges, living bohemia to its fullest with wild abandon.

Instead, I have opted for a far more modest life in lovely Haliburton County, which I love. That said, I still must spend a good part of my time understanding how to make money with a career that does everything but that; my soul is nourished, my heart is happy and I am stimulated intellectually. It is only the wallet that causes grief. You can then imagine my surprise, upon reading a recent article in the *New York Times* describing an arts funding model in Brazil that works so well artists find themselves at times with more money than they need. Wha??

It is written into the Brazilian constitution that a dedicated arts funding tax of 1.5 percent of all of that country's payroll taxes flow into an independent arts and culture subsidy or funding program called the SESC. This is a rare arts funding program because as Brazil gets richer, wages increase and the fund increases. The payroll tax is imposed on all companies operating in this country and there is no opt-out option. The companies actually agree with the tax because they believe that

workers who experience the arts are more productive, better educated and happier.

The thing about the SESC is that it runs as a massive, private arts organization. It often works in partnership with other commercial companies like movie theatres, restaurants and concert halls.

This is in part why Brazil, along with many other South American countries are now becoming major world players and no longer the sad, leftist developing countries run by drug lords. The drug lords are still there, but the economies are advancing regardless.

In fact, South American artists are seen everywhere from biennials in European capitals to being feted in major New York galleries. Their work is modern, sophisticated and political. Their boldness in part derives from their nation's commitment to their freedom and guaranteed income. I don't know the intricacies and I am sure there are issues, but it seems as though Brazil has made a bold, nationwide commitment to the arts.

Are we being left behind in terms of funding for the arts? You better believe it. As much as I appreciate the work done by the funding bodies in our country and the businesses that augment a lot of that funding, we are sorely missing on opportunities to create new revenue streams for the arts going forward. There seems to be absolutely no vision here anymore.

And I don't think the government is entirely at fault. Vision has to come from the people. What kind of society do we want?

In Canada, we support the arts through a tiny portion of our income tax, charitable donations, not-for-profit organizations and arms-length arts councils that make peer-assessment

decisions. Beyond the few successful dealers in this country and events like *Luminato*, there is virtually no real commercial model that I am aware of.

This current paradigm might be taking its toll. The art world has become a sad cousin to tourism and heritage. We have been lumped into these categories over and over because the money that is handed out through charities no longer supports strictly cultural incentives. In the last two decades, the arts sector has also resorted to gambling money. When the Mike Harris revolution cut operating funding to many theatre companies in the 1990s, many started operating bingos for their administrative costs. Now we have the Trillium Foundation, which supports the arts via Lottario money. I don't have any moral problem with this and we do need the money, but it isn't visionary.

We need to modernize our arts funding. We need to team up commercial and non-commercial industries to help make art work -- and not for just two-week arts festivals but for an ongoing, long-term format. Our economic system, however, is challenged because companies will never commit to levying their payroll tax for the arts; they would insist on taking it off of workers wages instead of profits and frankly that wouldn't be good for anyone.

I am hardly an expert on funding and the arts, but it would seem to me that we need to talk about this. The recession has made these issues more urgent and more ubiquitous than ever. And there are ideas out there that are working. If Brazil, a country that has been stigmatized my whole life as regressive, impoverished, backwards and dangerous is now an example of 21st century advancement, then a rich, progressive place like Canada can do it too.

Highlander arts



Model sketching was part of the opening reception at the AJG on Saturday, May 5. Photos by George Farrell.



Artist Tony Cooper with some of his oil paintings.

Dual exhibit at Agnes Jamieson Gallery

Sculptures and sketches juxtapose landscapes in thematic show

By George Farrell

The opening reception at Agnes Jamieson Gallery (AJG) in Minden on Saturday, May 5 was an event which kicked off a dual exhibition of landscapes, for which the AJG is best known, as well as life drawings and sculptures of the human form.

Elemental Exposure features the work of landscape artist Tony Cooper and *Ten Thousand Hours* displays the sculptures and sketches of Oscar Ross.

After having previously explored, through her series of talks, the Marshall McLuhan concept of 'art is anything you can get away with,' AJG curator Laurie Carmount's decision to mount the dual exhibition threw the proverbial spanner in the works of that thinking.

"We're all immediate nowadays and many people feel that any creative expression is considered art," said Carmount.

"But in contrast to that belief, the rule of 10,000 hours stipulates that in order to be an expert or master in anything, you need to practice for that length of time."

She chose her artists carefully to illustrate the point. With the openings of the Cooper and Ross exhibits, Carmount showed what the traditional concepts of hard work and accumulated hours of practice can accomplish.

Cooper's *Elemental Exposure* features a dazzling array of over 100 small works in oil. Each wall of the large room in the gallery occupies a grouping of his small images. The largest grouping contains 39 individual landscapes of a silica mountain range in Killarney Park. The images are not mounted flat; some lie proud of their neighbours and the result is an added depth and dimension. The grouping then becomes somewhat sculptural in its presentation, with the array of small images forming a large whole.

On another wall a group is mounted with the incorporation of wooden structural supports, which reach to the ceiling. The supports use a system of pulleys and ropes and the ropes are tied to huge anchoring boulders on the floor. The human-imposed tension of that particular group of paintings stands in contrast to the wilderness scenes created in each small image.

"I work on site, in oils," said Cooper. "Each one takes a couple of hours, but I canoe in or walk to the sites and it often takes up to a whole day. I do a couple of paintings in a day. I'm dealing with the experience of the place and that's why there's more than one image of each location. All together they contain many precious moments and with the groupings it's sort of like video or film in a way, depending on how you view it; up, down, any way you want."

Another group of images shows the stages of progression of a building site – in bold opposition to the pastoral natural landscapes on the other walls.

Cooper has been an artist "for over 50 years." He regularly comes to his Minden area cottage, and another of his groupings features images of Bob Lake. His father, Sidney Cooper, also had his own exhibit in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, "back in the 80s when the gallery was very much smaller."

The *Ten Thousand Hours* exhibit by Oscar Ross is a decidedly different affair. Occupying a hallway and the small room off the main gallery, Ross's works, which represent simple sketches and small exquisite sculptures of people doing everyday things, are minimalist both in their concept and presentation. The sketches are simple works, but show the skill of a man who knows the human form well. The bronze sculptures on the other hand are fully realized. One shows a group of three people, two men and a woman, standing and looking in different directions. They're carrying luggage, and they could be waiting for a train. Even though they look as though they're modeled on people from the 40s or 50s, they stand as a testament to our times; not interacting; each one seems to be awaiting transportation to an unknown destination and destiny. Another sculpture depicts a man sitting alone on a park bench.

Carmount has never met Ross, who was a commercial artist by trade.

"He's in his 80s," she revealed, "and he was not able to make it here today."

Carmount carried on all correspondence with Ross over the phone. "But he believes that practice is critical, especially for anatomy," she said.

After the opening, people were invited to the common room of the cultural centre, adjacent to the AJG, where several local artists were sketching a female model – carrying on the theme of hard work and hours of practice.

Both exhibitions are on display until July 14.

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DATE: Saturday, May 19th, 2012

TIME: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

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A copy of the draft by-law is available for download on the County of Haliburton Website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca by following the links to News & Notices.

For additional information, please contact:

Jane M. Tousaw, CMO

Director of Planning

County of Haliburton

11 Newcastle Street

P. O. 399

Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

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From left to right: Dan Berand, Ken Mott, Chris Nichols and Megan Stong with the harvest from the Highland Grove garden. Photo by Megan Stong.

Volunteers dig in

Community garden projects underway in Highlands East

By Will Jones

If the sound of chainsaws shatters your Sunday afternoon peace it's normally a neighbour stockpiling logs for the winter. However, if you live in Wilberforce, the noise on Sunday afternoon may have been due to members of the community garden taskforce making inroads into the treed lot behind the Anglican church: a plot they have been given by the municipality to turn into a community garden.

"It'll take some hard work initially," says Mark Bramham, Wilberforce local and part of the driving force behind the project. "Once we've cleared the land you'll be surprised how quickly this will begin to look like a garden, though."

Working with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR) and its county-wide Community Garden Network, volunteers in both Wilberforce and Gooderham have held public meetings about their plans for gardens and begun to work towards the type of plots that are already used in Dorset, Haliburton, Minden and Stanhope.

In Wilberforce, the municipality has provided community gardeners with a 200 by 150-foot plot on an area of land previously known as Block B, which runs behind the houses and St. Margaret's Church on Loop Rd. and alongside Holmes Rd. The Gooderham garden will be at the Community Centre.

Megan Stong, HKPR employee and leader of the Community Garden Network says, "These gardens are really important as they engage the public, especially people who might not consider planting their own garden, encouraging them to learn new skills, socialize and hopefully harvest and eat fresh veggies and fruit."

She explains how each garden in the county

is different, depending upon the wishes of the locals involved in it. For instance, those in Minden and Stanhope are heritage Three Sisters gardens with an emphasis on heirloom vegetable varieties and ancient aboriginal customs – the planting of corn, beans and squash. In Dorset, the garden is split into raised beds which are planted and cared for by individuals or families; while in Haliburton, a mix of collaborative and individual gardens have been planted.

"We would encourage the community to get together and decide what is best for them," says Stong. "What do they want from the garden? Will it be educational; split into individual plots or planted as a collaborative effort; will the food be eaten by those who grow it or given to members of the community in need? There is a lot to discuss and get excited about for the people wanting to be involved in community gardens."

There is also a lot of work to do. When all of the trees are removed from the Wilberforce plot a backhoe will be brought in to rip out the stumps, only then will the ground begin to resemble a space for a garden.

"We'll need help with manual work and assistance from local businesses, too, to really make this work," says Bramham. "If anyone has a chipper we could borrow, an old water tank or pump we could have, please let us know. We'll be doing things on a shoestring budget and so all the help we can get from the community will be greatly appreciated."

Currently, both new gardens have small but dedicated teams of volunteers working to get them up and running. Both teams are still looking for people to join in the work and fun; they are also discussing how local children can become involved, too.

Stong says, "The gardens are worked by the people, following their own path. However, as a public health worker, I can see the benefits that these initiatives bring in multiple ways. Even if you have no gardening knowledge at all, give it a try because getting out there and growing your own produce is a great experience and one that comes with health benefits and a wonderful taste, too."

Anyone interested in helping should contact Megan Stong at 705-457-1391 ext. 246.

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Algonquin Highlands

Cultural planning in the works

By Lisa Harrison

In a presentation to Algonquin Highlands council on May 3, consultant Jim Blake provided an update on the development of the township's Municipal Cultural Plan (MCP).

Blake said that funding from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport had been secured and that once a steering committee was selected and a consultant chosen, the plan development process could begin. The project is slated for completion in March 2013.

A municipal cultural plan is a strategy created by a broad representation of a community's leaders, staff and cultural representatives to identify and leverage the community's cultural resources, Blake reported. The plan also identifies ways to strengthen those resources and integrate them into future planning and decision-making in all aspects of community development, including economic development.

Cultural resources cover a broad range of initiatives that include arts, heritage and community organizations, occupations and industries, facilities and events, natural resources and more. The broader definition covers the stories, traditions and unique aspects that have shaped life in the community; for example, the logging history of Algonquin Highlands.

When a community takes a more strategic, integrated approach to developing and coordinating its cultural resources, it can build a stronger municipal and community-wide knowledge base to support economic development and other community initiatives. It can also use that knowledge to further develop and coordinate cultural assets and activities, support greater collaboration across organizations and activities, and broaden overall awareness of the community's rich and diverse cultural resources and activities.

The MCP process has spread across the province, with plans being created at

various levels of government, said Blake. In Haliburton County, it's happening at the 'lower tier' township and municipality level. Minden Hills and Dysart et al are already working on theirs.

Blake outlined next steps for the Algonquin Highlands MCP process as follows: once the steering committee has reviewed the draft request for proposal (RFP), a final version will go to council for discussion and approval at the May 17 meeting. The RFP will be issued and consultant proposals will be reviewed by the steering committee (or part thereof) and a recommendation made to council. Blake estimated that a consultant could be in place within the last two weeks of June.

The consultant will then conduct interviews and consultations throughout the township, working with the steering committee and council to identify current resources beyond those already listed for the funding application. The consultant and committee will develop recommendations for future resource development and action and the final recommendations will go to council for approval to form the final plan.

Councilors spent a good deal of time discussing various areas of the township to ensure that they will be properly represented and had prepared a list of names for the MCP steering committee. Those individuals are: Ward 2 councilor Lisa Barry, Greg Corbett, Bill Forbes, Elizabeth Johnson, Kerry Lock, Erin Lynch, Jan McDonald, Reeve Carol Moffatt, Ruth Ross and Bessie Sullivan.

It was agreed that additional members can be added if needed and Blake noted that the consultant interviews can also ensure that all cultural resources in the township have been represented.

Council approved the work plan and schedule, appointed the steering committee members and adopted the terms of reference.

Dorset landfill reaching capacity

Time for a closure plan after 11 years

By Lisa Harrison

The 2011 annual monitoring report for the Dorset Waste Disposal Site recommends that a plan be developed for closure as the site is nearing capacity.

At the May 3 Algonquin Highlands township meeting, operations manager Brian Whetstone presented the draft report by consultant Cambium Environmental to council. The report advised that the site is reaching capacity and recommended that a closure plan be developed.

Whetstone noted that closure was predicted 11 years ago, but staff has managed to stretch capacity at the site. He said that the site has an estimated three years of capacity left before council must decide whether it becomes a land transfer station and what area of the township will serve as the new site.

"What you're going to need to address is the kind of infrastructure you put in now," Whetstone told council. "They have solar powered compaction bins now which will make trucking expenses less because you get more garbage in."

He said council will also need to

make such decisions as to whether or not the township will continue to allow construction debris to be dumped at the site.

Whetstone said a closure plan for the site was prepared about eight years ago and suggested that it be resubmitted to the Ministry of the Environment.

From all township waste disposal sites, approximately 358.35 tons of blue box materials, 1.2 tons of batteries and 1.6 tons of empty automotive fluid containers were diverted in 2011, according to the consultant's report.

From the Dorset waste disposal site in 2011, the following were diverted:

26.35 tons of furniture and mattresses, 78.54 tons of scrap metal and white goods, and 8.05 tons of electronic waste (the total between Dorset and Oxtongue Lake waste disposal sites).

"Our landfills are still very viable and doing very

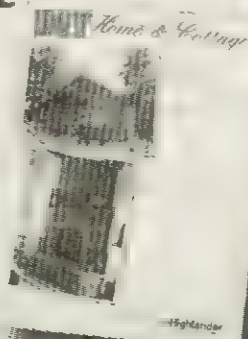
well, our recycling programs are probably second to none in the county and we're right up at the top in the province," said Whetstone. "The staff is doing a great job for you."

Council approved submission of the consultant's report to the MOE, and as this was Whetstone's final report to council before retiring from the position, Reeve Carol Moffatt thanked him on behalf of the township for his 11 years of service and wished him well in his retirement.

"Our recycling programs are probably second to none in the county"

Brian Whetstone
Operations Manager

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Algonquin Highlands

Dorset tower may become 'eye in the sky'

Business proposes webcam to increase tourist draw

By Lisa Harrison

A web-linked camera trained on the Village of Haliburton drew almost half a million visitors to the host website in March alone and that means increased tourism, according to the company with the camera, Halcom Communications Ltd. Halcom's Russ Hemphill proposes to create a similar setup at the Dorset Lookout Tower.

"It would be a huge benefit to [the Township] of Algonquin Highlands," Hemphill told council during his presentation at their May 3 meeting. He said that the Haliburton webcam has averaged more than 200,000 hits per month since it was set up about 10 years ago. It allows travel-minded visitors to see what stage the colours have reached in autumn or how much snow is on the ground (snowmobilers check often), as well as activities on and around Head Lake and in town throughout the year.

"I think it's a fabulous idea," said Deputy Reeve Liz Danielsen. "It can do nothing but improve our access to tourists."

The Haliburton webcam is linked to other tourism-related sites such as The Weather Network, significantly increasing the potential visitor draw to the website and to Haliburton.

Hemphill recommended that a Dorset Lookout Tower webcam also be linked to other websites. However, he advised that the township would need to monitor the links to ensure that visitors were using the site legitimately and not unnecessarily increasing Internet bandwidth (the amount of data communication capacity being used by the webcam links) and thereby costs.

Hemphill proposed that the Dorset Lookout Tower webcam be focused on Lake of Bays rather than the town, since viewers want to see the changing seasons.

Council asked for additional information about costs and functionality. Hemphill advised that purchase and installation of a wide-angle camera that doesn't move and can be set to take shots at set periods – every 30 seconds, every minute and so on – would cost approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000, about \$2,000 less expensive than a moving camera.

A small building approximately the size of an outhouse would need to be constructed as close to the tower as possible to house equipment at the proper temperature year-round (60 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit) and prevent vandalism, said Hemphill. He recommended using a backup data storage device to enable swift recovery of the system in the event of a power disruption and said the only ongoing fees would be for the electricity (equivalent to running a five-watt light bulb) and bandwidth use.

Councillors also asked about the potential to mount a security camera on the tower and were advised that this is possible with a different camera on a different Internet link.

Council approved in principle the installation of a webcam and requested that Halcom come back to them with costing options for further consideration. A site visit for Halcom will be arranged for this purpose.



"Eye in the Sky" Haliburton website camera operated by Halcom Communications. Halcom proposes to mount a similar webcam on Dorset Tower.

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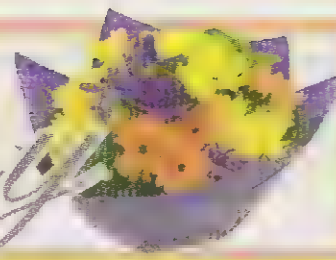
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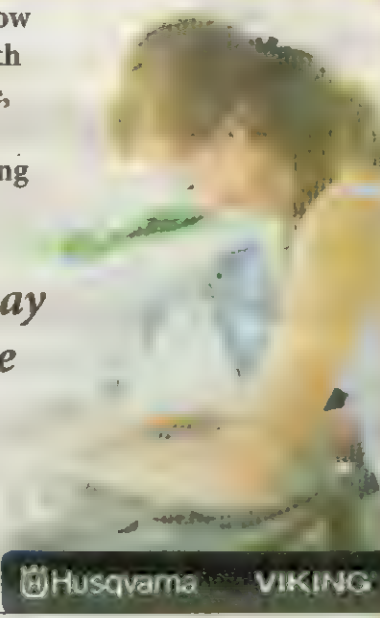
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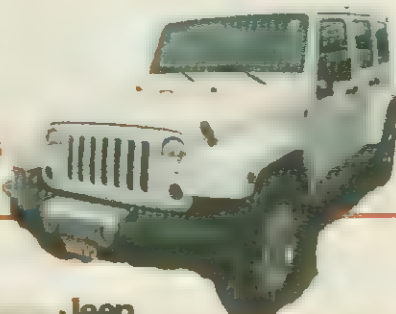
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County news

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Award recipients, left to right: Brian Goddard (rookie award), and Garth and Carol Krieger (family achievement award). Photo by Mark Arike.

Snowmobile club rides out a rough winter

By Mark Arike

This past winter was a challenging one for the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) in more ways than one.

Not only did the uncooperative weather make it difficult for the group's members to groom and maintain the trails, but it also had a negative impact on permit sales.

"Apart from a tough winter with the weather conditions, we were having a tough winter with the permit sales," said HCSA president Joachim Matysek at the group's annual general meeting on April 28 at Sandy Lane Resort.

Total permit sales before December 1 were 1,208, a drop of 345 from the previous season's 1,553. Sales made after that date, on the other hand, went up from 129 in the 2010-11 season to 152 this season.

The significant drop in permit sales means that the club took in \$23,449.59 less than what it did in the previous snowmobile season.

"We just have to continue to be efficient and streamline wherever we can," Matysek advised those in attendance.

An increase in expenses added to the challenges posed by Mother Nature.

Matysek said that groomers were out on the trails five days a week, 12 hours a day.

"There was a cost increase in the fuel aspect... We did run with six groomers instead of five," he said.

Sledders pleased with trails

HCSA treasurer Robert Bryant pointed out that this season he had the opportunity to ride his sled from the Haliburton Highlands to Whitney.

"I thoroughly enjoyed it," said Bryant. "I haven't gone that far in years and the trails - until we hit Paudash [Trail] - were excellent. Our trails were excellent."

Matysek said that the volume of snowmobilers on the trails was "definitely up this year." He added that the new trail system in Minden - Mount Minden and Village Trail - was a draw.

"The new trail that the Reeve [Barb Reid] pushed through and helped us to obtain was a success overall. There are a few little kinks in it, such as one nasty little hill that a few people don't like."

Matysek said that the overall impression of the new trail was positive.

"It certainly was a move in the right direction with Minden coming back into the loop," he said.

Matysek then revealed a \$17,600 wish list

of items for next year that was submitted by the organization's equipment operator Chuck Sneath.

"We do have to keep our equipment up," said Matysek. "We're going to be challenged money-wise, but we'll just have to work with everything we have and baby everything through another year."

Items on Sneath's list included a new fuel tank, winch cable and miscellaneous parts.

Enforcement on the trails

This past season was a busy one for those patrolling the trails in the Highlands, according to Chris Bullerdick, the HCSA's snowmobile trail patrol officer.

"We were out every weekend and some guys were out during the week," said Bullerdick. "We're pretty fortunate to have a bunch of volunteers in that department, to keep the compliance of people buying permits up."

A total of 14 patrols were conducted over 1,652 kilometres of trail. Of the 2,355 sleds that were stopped, two charges were laid for not having insurance; five for no trail permits; 11 for improper mufflers; 21 miscellaneous charges; and six for disobeying a stop sign.

Patrols began on January 20 and concluded on March 10.

Fundraising important to club

In addition to permit sales, the HCSA managed to collect over \$26,000 through fundraising and marketing initiatives.

"We put together a map and a golf tournament," said Gwen Bryant, HCSA volunteer in charge of fundraising. "The map brought in about \$21-22,000."

Bryant said she would volunteer her time for both projects next year.

Volunteer awards

One of the high points at this year's AGM came when Elaine Dittrick, volunteer coordinator, presented four awards to HCSA volunteers. This year's recipients included: Al Baron (volunteer of the year award), Garth and Carol Krieger (family achievement award), Brian Goddard (rookie award) and Mike Donnelly (driver trainer award).

New Directors for 2012/13

Of the nine director spots on the HCSA board, six spots were open for 2012-13.

Joining re-elected directors Joachim Matysek, Robert Bryant, Brian Goddard, Garth Krieger and Tom Nicholson are Elaine Dittrick, John Hevesi, Sandor Toth and Liz Jesseman.

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Places for People in search of tenants

Applications due May 14 for Carnarvon property

Places for People is ready to receive applications for tenancy in its new property in Carnarvon.

The application form, which can be found on the organization's website (www.placesforpeople.ca), must be completed and submitted by May 14.

"We apologize for the short turn-around, but a lot of careful work was required to come up with rental rates and income parameters that on one hand allow us to meet our financial obligations and on the

other hand, make the property affordable to the population we exist to serve -- people of limited means," said Places for People president Fay Martin. "We expect to be ready for occupancy by July 1, 2012."

The Carnarvon property has a three bedroom unit that will rent for \$830 per month, utilities and laundry facilities included. Places for People is looking for families whose total family income from all sources is between \$31,000 and \$33,000.

The second unit has four bedrooms and will rent for \$890 per month inclusive. Families applying are to have an income between \$33,000 and \$36,000.

Further information is available from Sharyn Bray at 705-457-1223 or info@placesforpeople.ca.

Students taking over the airwaves

By Douglas Pugh

Usually, the takeover of a radio station is often a part of some military coup in a far flung corner of the globe. Here in Haliburton, though, it's a rather more productive venture.

The Interact Club, an association of students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School that are allied with the local Rotary clubs, take over Canoe FM on an annual basis, selling advertising on the airwaves and getting listeners to sponsor and dedicate tracks that are on the playlist for the day. All the proceeds go to a worthy cause.

"We've done this for maybe four or five years now," said Joanna Penfold of the Minden Rotary Club. "Each year, I think the kids take on more and more of the project."

Charities supported in the past have been as diverse as Oxfam and Sanitation for India. This year's cause, however, is perhaps a little nearer to the students own

hearts as the funds raised will go towards funding students in Kenya to receive tuition. The group has highlighted the plight of young girls in the rural Maasai tribe, limited by opportunity because of gender, location, tribe and culture. It's a lot to overcome, but with a little help from a lot of people Interact hopes to support students that are determined to work past these formidable barriers.

Jointly chaired by students Quinn Salverda and Caitlin Griffin, with the main Canoe FM interaction coordinated by Zacharya Cox, the Rotary Radio Day is just one of many activities the students have organized. Other events included a movie night, wishing wells in the school's cafeteria, a pie-ing session with teachers, bake sales and a buy-out on May 11. They also plan to spring a few surprise events along the way.

So when you hear Canoe FM on Thursday, May 10 between 6 am and 6 pm, be sure to show the students your support.

Tibetan Buddhist nun returning to the Highlands

Submitted by Carol Kilby

With her flowing wine-coloured robes, sandals and shaved head, the Tibetan nun, Abbess Khenmo Drolma, may be, at first, a surprise. But when you've heard her story, sat with her in meditation and reflected on her teachings, she is soon seen as a friend.

Haliburton Highlands is again being visited by Drolma, an American woman who has become a Tibetan Buddhist nun and teacher, from May 15-20. Her workshops will be at a number of locations in the Highlands.

This year's theme is "Living Fully!" Featured events will focus on: promoting personal peacefulness midst constant change; looking at the issues of death and dying; and using art as an effective communication tool with our inner self and others.

As a teacher, Drolma combines her own experiences as a breast cancer survivor and hospice innovator with her background as a professional sculptor and her advanced studies in spirituality and philosophy.

For workshop locations and more information call Carol Kilby at 705-754-2427.



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County news

Open house generates interest for eco centre

Community support moves project forward

By Will Jones

Anyone driving past the former Donald Chemical Plant, will notice that there's work going on: a new roof, walls being demolished, the interior gutted. This is because the Eco-Innovation Centre, the brainchild of Leora Berman, is beginning to take shape. And, in order to continue that forward momentum, Berman held an information session at the Pinestone Resort on Friday, May 4.

The session was attended by upwards of 30 interested locals, contractors, environmentalists and Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey. Berman presented them a brief history of the chemical plant, pointing out its colourful working past and now the building's national architectural significance. She went on to explain how, through the help and hard work of numerous local contractors and school children, the building is slowly being transformed from a ruin into something that she believes will soon become a major driver of sustainable construction within the county.

"The environmental industry is now the fastest growing sector within Ontario and construction is the second largest sub-sector within this green industry," said Berman. "Looking more locally, tourism is the largest grossing sector. Couple that with construction, the third largest business in the Highlands, and you begin to see the potential for contractors and suppliers – more work, new services, training opportunities – a whole new business sector to tap into."

Berman then explained that the Eco-Innovation Centre will have a maximum of 75 members. Each full member will have a booth within the centre and a presence on the website (partial members can pay to be included on the website). Initially, membership is being offered to businesses within Haliburton County and then to a wider audience.

The centre will be staffed by an impartial trained employee and so booths will not have to be staffed by employees of the businesses themselves; and it will be run as a cooperative, with all members having an equal say in the centre's ongoing operation.

Berman has invested over \$7,000 in the project herself and Jim O'Connor, who donated the building (with a value between \$30-60,000) has also put in \$8,000. Additionally, \$76,000 in grants have been secured to assist in the start-up. However, Berman was quick to point out that once



Project Manager Leora Berman delivered a presentation on the new Eco-Innovation Centre at the Pinestone Resort. Photo by Will Jones.

operational, the centre will be financed entirely by members' dues. "There will be no need for further grants or loans," she said.

But coming back to the present, Berman unveiled a graphic, created by Robert van Nood, of how the building will look once renovated. Still recognizable as the chemical plant, but with a bright new exterior and new signage, the goal is to turn the building into a corporate and tourism destination.

Berman is now asking for assistance and donations to ensure that the renovation of the building is completed.

"You can become a sponsor, with member status, by donating cash, materials or time to the project," she said.

"We've already had some very generous offers and the community is really getting involved – both the business

community and local education, too."

High school students have been to the site to help gut the interior of the building and it is hoped that the Fleming College Sustainable Renovations program will undertake a majority of the renovation work.

"This project is the best repurposing of the chemical plant that we could imagine and it will be a true benefit to local business and the community in the future," said Berman.

"We are well on our way to making it happen. We have three national and two provincial agencies on board as sponsors, plus lots of local support – and with some assistance from local contractors, we'll be opening for business next year."

For membership prices or other information, contact Leora Berman at 705-457-4838.

OPP watch for outdoor grow-ops

Cultivation suppression strategy in full effect

By Mark Arke

The OPP are gearing up to seize outdoor grow-ops in Haliburton County and apprehend those responsible for them.

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands detachments, with the assistance of units such as the Emergency Response Team, will be conducting patrols in areas historically known to be used for outdoor marijuana grow-ops.

Officers will also be educating the public on the warning signs of a grow-op. Pamphlets with information will be distributed to residents throughout the county in the coming weeks.

"The priority of the OPP is public safety and we need assistance from the citizens of Haliburton County to help us keep this community safer by picking up the phone and contacting us when something suspicious is happening," said Acting Staff Sgt. Mike Landry of the Haliburton Highlands OPP.

Each year, during the late spring and summer months, marijuana growers head into rural areas to start and care for

plots of marijuana plants (in some cases, the street value of plants is several millions of dollars). Typically, these illegal crops are located in swamps, corn fields, wooded and rural areas, along rivers and on rental properties with large acreage.

Marijuana plants are bright green in colour and grow to between three and five feet in height. Marijuana leaves have seven jagged fingers and the plants give off a strong, pungent, musty odour. Common indicators of outdoor marijuana grow operations include:

1. Abandoned vehicles parked on side roads or trails.
2. People observed walking in remote areas for no apparent reason.
3. Bags of fertilizer, planting trays or chemicals located in remote areas.
4. Well-trampled trails in wooded or swamp areas.
5. Cleared out areas in swamps, wooded areas or corn fields.
6. Numerous no trespassing signs appearing out of nowhere.

Typically, marijuana crops will be harvested as early as late August up until the beginning of October.

There are numerous safety risks that the public should be aware of. These risks include the potential presence of

criminals, weapons and ammunition found on grow-op sites and the potential for booby traps rigged by the criminals in an attempt to defend themselves. These growers are known as "pot pirates."

All of these factors could lead to dangerous confrontations for unsuspecting, innocent people – including children – who just happen to be nearby.

Environmental risks also come with grow-ops. These criminals tend to be involved in the unregulated use of many chemicals and other environmentally-damaging products.

If you discover an outdoor grow-up, please call your local OPP or Crime Stoppers. Do not touch the plants due to potential chemical residue. If confronted, leave the area immediately and call police. If it is possible and safe to do so, record any license plates or GPS information that can be provided to police. If you discover a crop of marijuana plants, do not enter the area; turn around and immediately leave the same way you came in.

For further information about grow-ops or other crime, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. You can send a tip electronically to Crime Stoppers at www.crimestoppers.ca.

Highlander food

One ton of veggies for charity

Resident commits to donating to local groups

By Will Jones

Shovels, hoes and rakes in hand, the ladies of the SIRCH Community Kitchen and Community Food Network descended upon John Teljeur's veggie plot. On May 7, they came to assist him in his mighty quest to grow a whopping 2,000 pounds (one ton) of crops for donation to local charities.

In 2010, the Gelert resident grew too many veggies. He donated his surplus to the Minden Food Bank and while talking to volunteers, was shocked at the number of families that relied on the charity to feed their kids. This sparked his desire to expand his garden and grow veggies, especially for the food bank. In 2011, he did just that by growing and donating 550 pounds of fresh produce, which was divided between six different local community groups.

But that wasn't enough – not for Teljeur or the ever grateful charities. And so, this year, the avid gardener and horticultural philanthropist has pledged to grow a ton of produce for charity.

"I've been giving lots of thought as to how I can grow more without actually expanding the square footage of my gardens," says Teljeur. "I'll be training certain plants vertically this year; growing corn around the edge of my ponds; and making use of every bit of space in my raised beds."

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Volunteer Dale Bull makes a trench for beet seeds.
Photos by Will Jones.

Teljeur has also talked to the Community Kitchen volunteers to find out exactly what they want from him. "Squash, cabbage, potatoes; crops that grow late or that can be stored are good for the Kitchen," he explains, "anything that will extend the season and put off the time when they have to start buying veggies."

Teljeur's garden consists of five raised beds, totalling just under an acre of cultivated land. The team of volunteers was soon set to work, planting row upon row of more hardy veggies including carrots, beets, peas and onions.

With each different crop, Teljeur demonstrated how the ladies should best plant the seeds – onion sets four inches apart in rows similarly spaced; beets sprinkled in rows not too close together – and then he set a member of the team up with the tools for the task.

"We're planting these crops now because they can withstand a little bit of cold weather. I have other more delicate varieties either germinating indoors or ready to plant out as seeds after the last frost at the end of May," he explains. "The north borders of most of the garden beds have a frame and mesh set up so that climbers such as peas, pole beans, tomatoes and cucumbers can grow up it without shading the ground hugging varieties. I'm aiming to maximize the output from the garden."

There's light-hearted banter coming from all sides of Teljeur's garden as he and his bevy of female volunteers work away amidst the black flies, raking, making trenches, sowing, covering and tamping down the ground over the seeds. It's an enjoyable afternoon, but also one that stands to benefit some of the poorest members of the county come harvest time.

That's something never far from Teljeur's mind.

"As a father, I cannot imagine not being able to give my daughter a basic thing such as healthy food," he says.



John Teljeur plants beet seeds.

"Initially, in 2010, I was shocked at the level of poverty in the area. Now I'm as shocked by the lack of help that these people get. I'm growing and donating my crops to FoodNet to help, of course, but I'm also doing it to prove a point. One person can make a big difference and it's really easy to do, especially if you already grow veggies. Just plant some extra and give them to those in need."

If anyone would like to donate food to the Community Kitchen, for distribution to a variety of at risk groups, please call Jane van Nood at 705-457-8350. To donate locally grown food to any other local initiatives pick up a copy of the *Food For All* booklet, which is produced by the Health Unit in partnership with FoodNet. It lists dozens of food support programs that provide free or low-cost meals to residents in Haliburton County. Copies of the booklet can be picked up at the Health Unit's office at 191 Highland St. (Unit 31) in Haliburton or by calling 705-457-1391. The *Food For All* resource is also available by visiting the Health Unit's website at www.hkpr.on.ca (go to Healthy Lifestyles, then Nutrition, then Access to Food).

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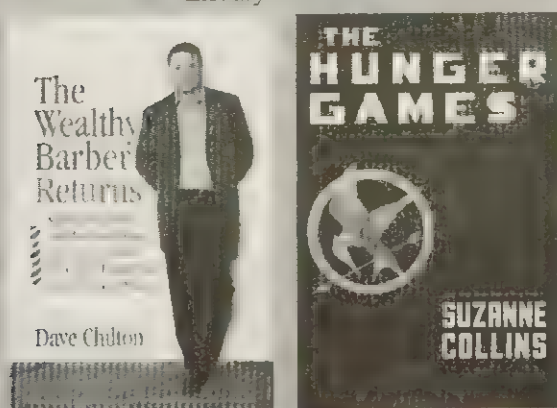
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Highlander technology

Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are the top 5 fiction and non-fiction titles as requested at the Haliburton County Public Library this week.



HCPL's TOP 5 FICTION

1. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
2. *Down the Darkest Road* by Tami Hoag
3. *Calico Joe* by John Grisham
4. *The Witness* by Nora Roberts
5. *Mennonites Don't Dance* by Darcie Hossack

HCPL's TOP 5 NON-FICTION

1. *The Wealthy Barber Returns* by David Chilton
2. *Under An Afghan Sky* by Melissa Fung
3. *Wishes Fulfilled: Mastering the Art of Manifesting* by Wayne Dyer
4. *Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson
5. *Drop Dead Healthy* by A.J. Jacobs

New to HCPL's top fiction list is Nora Roberts's latest stand-alone novel *The Witness*. *The Witness* follows Elizabeth, a gifted student with an over-controlling mother. The summer before she's due to enter a pre-med program, Elizabeth opts for a bit of rebellion that leads to witnessing the murder of a Russian mafia figure. When the US Marshals Service fails to protect her, Elizabeth spends the next 12 years running and hiding from the Russian mafia boss who vows to eliminate her and the US Marshals Service who thinks she killed her protection detail. Cut to 12 years later, she has a new identity as Abigail Lowrey and a hiding place in the Ozarks, but one day she meets the local sheriff Brooks Gleason and realizes she doesn't want to be alone and untrusting anymore. Will romance put her safety at risk? Written in typical Nora Roberts fashion, *The Witness* is a good mix of suspense and romance. Unbelievably, it is her 200th novel. At this rate, Roberts may go down in history as the world's most prolific author.

Library News

Starting on May 9 at the Dysart Branch, the Haliburton County Public Library will be offering business workshops through Contact North, Ontario's Distance Education and Training Network. The workshops will run every Wednesday. Refer to our website at www.haliburtonlibrary.ca for a full list of topics and times.

The Computer Guy Spring cleaning your Windows

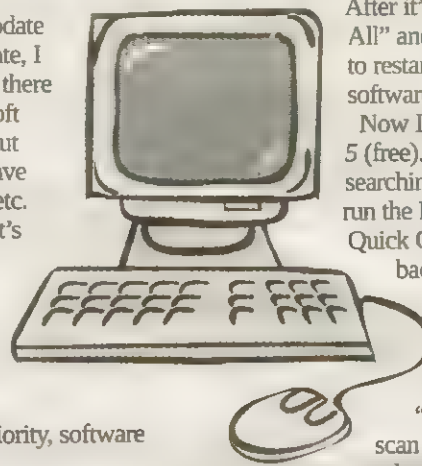
By David Spaxman

Last week, I wrote about cleaning the inside of the computer. This week, I write about cleaning the hard drive. Now, what I'm going to suggest is completely my own opinion on how to keep Windows running at its best and may not work for everyone, but I have done this for many years and had good success with it.

First, you want to go to the Microsoft Update site, if you're still going to Windows Update, I suggest you upgrade to the Microsoft site; there should be a link to take you there. Microsoft Update not only updates your Windows, but also updates any Microsoft product you have on your computer such as Office, Works, etc. If you have automatic updates turned on, it's still a good habit to visit the site because automatic updates only do high priority or security updates, not optional updates which are just as important. Once you visit the site click on "custom" to start the scan for your computer.

When it's done, it will show you high priority, software optional and hardware optional updates.

Click on the links to the left to see what is being offered, do the high priority and software optional and avoid the hardware optional. I find that it's a 50-50 chance that the hardware ones will work and can cause more headaches than they are worth. If you want to update your hardware then go to the manufacturer's website for that. Once you have installed the updates listed you will have to restart your computer. I then go back and do it again until there are no more updates available.



Now I start up Malwarebytes Anti-Malware, which is a free program available online. You can Google it to find the download link if you don't have it already. Once you install it, (click on decline at the first window for the trial), then update it and run a full system scan. This will find and remove any viruses/adware/spyware and malware that could have snuck

its way on to your computer and slowed things down.

After it's found nasty stuff, simply click "Remove All" and let it do the rest. It will probably ask you to restart so it can finish; if it finds no malicious software on your computer then exit out of it.

Now I like to run Iobit's *Advanced System Care 5* (free). This can also be found on the internet by searching for it. After you download and install it, run the Deep Care section, even if it takes you to Quick Care you can go back by clicking on the

back arrow in the upper left. Deep Care will

do a comprehensive scan of your system and fix any problems you may be having. If you hold your mouse pointer over the big "Scan" button, you will see

"Scan & Repair." Choose this option. The

scan could take anywhere from 20 minutes to

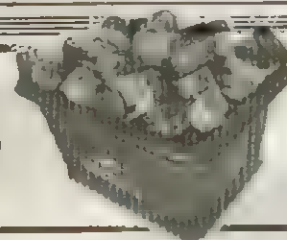
an hour. After it's done, restart your computer to defrag the registry and finish its optimization.

Hopefully, you should see an improvement in your computer and if you do this every six months or so (not just in the spring), then you should stay trouble-free for some time.

As always, if you have any comments or questions email me at computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

Happy safe computing!

the Cottage Kit



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Highlander people



Sue MacDonald does some bikejoring in Stephentown in upstate New York. Submitted.

Bikejoring: an alternative to dog sledding

Local rider hopes to offer clinic in the Highlands

By Erin Lynch

You may have seen Sue MacDonald riding her bike through Haliburton along with her 10-year-old daughter Dakota in tow and a team of dogs attached to their bikes.

A breeder of German Coolies, the original sheep herding dogs in Australia, Sue is continually searching out activities to keep her seven dogs exercised and mentally stimulated. A year ago, Sue purchased a product from Denmark called a Springer. The device attaches under a bike seat where the bulk of one's weight is distributed when cycling. With bungee cords, Sue is able to cycle with three of her dogs at a time. The dogs are behind her front wheel, giving her more control.

Two weekends ago, mother and daughter travelled to Stephentown in upstate New York to participate in a bikejoring clinic.

Sue says the origins of bikejoring are from California. A group of California husky owners began bikejoring as an alternative to dog-sledding due to the lack of snow in California. Bikejoring is a non-snow season mushing activity related to skjoring where a harnessed dog, or team of dogs, attached to a towline, pull and run ahead of a cyclist. Bikejoring is also sometimes used to train racing sled dogs out of season. Like dog sledding, commands are used to steer and direct the dogs.

"At the clinic they used sled dog commands like hike, gee and haw. I use herding terms like round, behind and back. You can use any command as long as you are consistent," says Sue.

Dog owners from all across United States participated in the weekend clinic.

Sue says that bikejoring is currently more popular south of the border than in Canada. Like dog sledding, there are competitions and races. Instead of a bike, some people use a scooter which allows the driver to quickly dismount if a dog is distracted by something in the distance.

Sue admits that throughout the weekend she took a few falls and that she will continue to use her Springer device instead of traditional bikejoring harnesses.

"For my application I am not interested in racing. The weekend for me was about socializing my dogs, networking with other dog owners and learning new techniques for dog training," says Sue, who declares her dogs behaved very well throughout the weekend.

"Dakota and I met a woman who uses her dogs for search and rescue. We now want to go to Rochester, New York and do some training with her – not because we want to do search and rescue, but Coolies are smart and I'm interested in different training techniques that will keep them happy," says Sue.

Like her dogs, Sue is a high-energy, social individual. Sue recounts that en route to the clinic she met someone at a gas station in New York State.

"She had a dog trailer and I looked inside and it was full of border collies," says Sue.

A conversation was struck up and she found out that the woman was from Toronto and did sheep herding training. Contact information was exchanged at the gas pumps and the two dog owners went their separate ways.

"Trails in Haliburton County are great for bikejoring," says Sue, who admits she often takes her dogs on the Rail Trail. Using the information she learned over the weekend and her own experience, Sue plans to offer a bikejoring clinic next year in the Highlands.



Municipality of Dysart et al

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Highlander Sports

Carving a line to the Olympics

Greg Foster continues to pursue a dream

By Douglas Pugh

The annals of Haliburton winter heroes are awash with hockey players, and Haliburton most certainly has produced some great players over the years. However, there are always new sports, new distractions and hobbies, and snowboarding is without doubt one of the most exciting and breathtaking to watch as the boarders plunge down the mountain courses between the gates. It's very much a vibrant sport with many participants from the younger crowd.

It's also highly competitive, requiring dedication to training, perseverance in

learning the craft and physical conditioning that stretches way past what many of us can handle. It also needs time on the slopes, learning to adapt to different terrain, different snows and conditions.

One Haliburton boy, Greg Foster, is starting to put Haliburton on the map. He has already carved his way through provincial events – winning gold – and started making waves amongst the national crowd, finishing 19th in the juniors before having a torrid time gaining experience up against the big guns in the nationals, including his own hero Jasey Jay Anderson.

"Greg has always been really active," she added. "He loves all sorts of sports – kayaking, mountain biking, track and field events."

One of the advantages of being so active may possibly have saved his life just a few short years ago.

"Four years ago, my daughter comes dashing into the house while I'm on the phone to someone and tells me that Greg has been hit by a car while they were riding their bikes," recounts Greg's mom Lois Foster. "I just dropped the phone and ran."

Finding him in a ditch, the mountain bike frame even bent by an impact from Greg's knee, his mother kept a level head and put her medical training into practice – she is a ski rescue medic – and gave him both spinal and wet checks (used to determine if the person is bleeding). The net result was one broken bone, but otherwise just a shaken and bruised boy.

"We're having to try and get him to focus on his core sports, avoiding risk in some of his other diversions like downhill mountain biking. He still loves kayaking out at his grandparents' place just outside of Camarvon

though," said Lois.

His grandparents, the MacBrien family, are long-time residents of the area who are hugely supportive of their grandson as he

works his way up the national rankings and aims for a coveted place on the Canadian team for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Russia.

Costs of training, however, remain one of the biggest challenges of many a talented sportsman. The nationals alone were a week away from home in Alberta.

"To compete at the national level – and to aim further – is at least \$40,000 a year. It's scary sometimes," says Lois, "but to be this close, we have to go for it. He has come so far in such a short time frame, from learning via YouTube videos to being right up there."

So when you see coin jars dotted here and there

around the county, spare some change for one of Haliburton's born and bred sporting heroes on the rise.

While Greg hopes to find a major sponsor, donations can also be accepted via deposit to CIBC, branch 0154 bank 010 account # 76-44930. Cheques can be made out to Lois Foster in trust for Greg Foster.



Greg Foster. File photo - Terrance Gavan.



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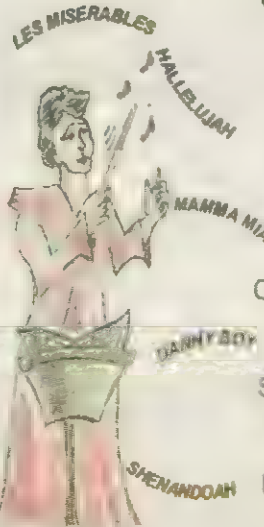
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Northern Lights Performing
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High school sports flash

Submitted by Judi Paul

On Monday, April 30, the junior girls' soccer team lost against a dominant team from Brock.

A special mention goes to players Taryn Albert and Joanie Tyler.

On Wednesday, May 2, the senior girls' soccer team lost a close match to St. Thomas Aquinas, with the final score 3-1. Haliburton's goal came from Bailey Walker.



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Senior highlanders

Seeing stars

Dear Penny,

I am 68 years old and I've started seeing oddly shaped flecks in my field of vision. I called my doctor and her nurse returned the call to tell me the doctor said it's nothing to worry about and I should learn to live with it. But I am worried. What are these things and why am I seeing them?

Dear Seeing Things,

The oddly shaped things you are seeing are called "floaters". Some people complain of flecks. Others report seeing cobwebs. And still others call them blobs, spots or specks. Some people describe them as thin grey strands floating around their field of vision, while others see them as thick and dark. In fact, no two people see the same floaters.

The reality is that floaters are fairly common in older people and while they may be an annoyance, they are usually nothing more than that.

Interestingly, because of the shape of their eyeballs, near-sighted people are more likely than others to experience floaters. But where do floaters come from?

Your eye is filled with a gel-like substance called the vitreous jelly or gel. As children, the vitreous gel is completely clear. As we age, strands or deposits may develop in the vitreous gel. Aging also changes the consistency of the gel and as it becomes more watery, tiny pieces of gel may float around the watery centre of the eye.

I'm sure you've discovered your floaters are more visible when you look at a bright light or perhaps at a bright blue sky. They are rarely seen when the light is dim and cannot be seen in the dark or when your eyes are closed. That's because when light strikes the floater it

casts a shadow on the retina and it is the shadows you are seeing in your field of vision.

When you try to focus on the floaters, you'll find they never stay still because they move as your eye moves. Nonetheless, floaters are generally not a sign of an emergency situation.

However, if you see bright flashes of light and a sudden cascade of floaters, it may be an indication that the retina is becoming detached. When that happens, it is an emergency situation that requires immediate attention to ensure you do not lose your vision in the affected eye.

According to the All About Vision website, "A study reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association in late 2009 found that sudden presence of eye floaters and flashes means that one in seven people with these symptoms will have a retinal tear or detachment. And up to 50 percent of people with a retinal tear will have a subsequent detachment."

At present, there are no medications for the treatment of floaters. Laser treatment is sometimes suggested and there are a couple of surgical options, but since there is no agreement in the medical community about the safety and efficacy of these treatments, most doctors would say exactly what yours did. You'll have to learn to live with it.

Readers, if you have any other questions—about your mobility, your comfort, or just about getting through your day more safely and easily, I want to hear them. For real-life answers you can use, write to penny@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Aging Well



By Penny Brown

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Preventing elder abuse

**'Be Aware, Be Safe, Take Action'
event on May 24**

Submitted by Annette Richardson

"Be Aware, Be Safe, Take Action" is being organized by the HKL Elder Abuse Prevention Network on Thursday, May 24 in recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Seniors and people of all ages can come out and enjoy speakers, community displays and refreshments. Service Canada will also be providing a pension clinic on site.

The morning event is being held at Parklane Apartments in Haliburton from 9:30-11:30 am, while the afternoon session is at Staunworth Apartments in Minden from 1:30-3:30 pm.

In Ontario, statistics show that between 4-10 percent of all adults over the age of 55 will experience some form of abuse, including: financial, physical, mental and neglect.

"The more informed seniors are, the better protected they are," states Karen Anderson, elder abuse services coordinator for Community Care CKL.

If you need more information on these events or on elder abuse, please call Karen Anderson at 1-800-461-0327.

How's the Real Estate market in Haliburton County?

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Highlander classifieds

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5 BEDROOM HOME on Soyers Lake, available immediately, \$1650/month plus utilities, first/last required, no smoking, 705-306-0918 (TFN)

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1981 VW WESTPHALIA in very good condition \$6900, 1995 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT in good condition \$2500, Alvarez F-Tone Mandolin with satin finish including case \$500, call 705-455-3061 (M17)

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SINGLE PROFESSIONAL REQUIRES - house close to Haliburton, one year term beginning June 2, 2012, prefer to be on lake but not necessary, call 705-854-2408 (M31)

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NOW HIRING - for the summer season, all positions: servers, kitchen staff and security, drop off resume in person or email to rockcliffetavern@hotmail.com (TFN)

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Special section on
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OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Cepecauer

Resident of Haliburton, Ontario

Peacefully at Extencicare-Haliburton on Saturday morning, May 5, 2012 in her 95th year. Beloved wife of the late Paul Cepecauer. Loving mother of Nicholas of Newmarket and Clara (Mike Vuksic) of Haliburton. Lovingly remembered by her nine grandchildren and eighteen great grandchildren. Predeceased by her son John and daughter Erika. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Elizabeth enjoyed her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She enjoyed reading, listening to German music and loved to cook for her family.

Funeral Mass & Reception

Friends are invited to call at ST. ANTHONY'S OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 27 Victoria St. Haliburton on Friday morning, May 18, 2012 for Funeral Mass at 10 o'clock. Interment Minden Cemetery. Reception to follow at The Community Room 13523 Hwy. 118, Haliburton, Ontario. As expressions of sympathy, donations to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or Extencicare - Proud Pioneers would be greatly appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

Community
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Please send your resume and cover letter to louise@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

To inquire about our classified rates call Louise
705-457-2900
or email louise@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Highlander events

EVENTS

BOB HAS RETIRED...

Please join us in celebrating Bob's retirement on Saturday, May 26. A well wishes drop-in will be held from 5pm to 7pm at the Haliburton Curling Club. Refreshments and light appetizers will be served.



We would love to see you there!

*Kellie and Steve,
Scott and Teresa
and Families.*

GOODBYE TENSION, HELLO PENSION!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday, June 11, 2012

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: The Great Hall

Sir Sandford Fleming College, Haliburton

The Board of Directors of SIRCH is pleased to invite you to attend their Annual General Meeting.

Our guest speaker will be Bev Hunter, Volunteer

*We hope to see you at the meeting and welcome all interested.
For further information, please call 457-1742 ext 28*

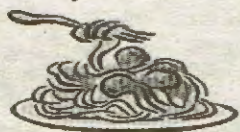
MINDEN LIONS CLUB



Super Spaghetti Dinner

5-7pm Friday

May 18 - \$10



Amazing pasta with meat sauce

Garlic bread - Caesar Salad - Beverage - Slab of cake
(seconds included)

Lions Hall - Bobcaygeon Road

**All Proceeds go to the Highlands Relay for Life
Cancer Fighting Fund Raiser 8/9 June**

Support the 10 Person Lions Relay Team

May 2012

TheHighlander Community Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4 - June 22

- Haliburton Highlands Toastmasters Club 1456253 presents an 8 week public speaking course, McKeck's Blue Line, 12 noon - 1 pm (times negotiable), led by successful Toastmasters, this course will help individuals from all walks of life to enhance leadership, speaking and negotiating skills, for information or to register contact Sybil in Minden - 705-286-2624 or Ruth in Haliburton - 705-455-9459

May 20

- Maple, Beech & Cameron Lakes Property Owners' Association AGM, Firemen's Hall, North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, 12:30 pm - registration, 1 pm - meeting, members only (membership may be purchased at the door), contact Doug Palmer 705-489-3799

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Thursday - 10

- Ready, Set, Off to K, OEYC Minden, learn easy activities you can do with your child to help them get ready for school, 705-286-1770
- Minden Health Care Auxiliary

fundraising bowl-a-thon in the afternoon at the Camarvon Bowl, to join in the fun call John 705-286-2481

Friday - 11

- Cribbage, Community Care, Haliburton, 1 pm, 705-457-2941

Sunday - 13 -

MOTHER'S DAY

- Brunch, Harmony Farm, reservations recommended.
- Country Music Jamboree, SG Nesbitt Arena-Minden, 1 - 5 pm, Country Hot Flashes & Cold Shoulders, open mic, square dancing, admission \$7, 5 pm dinner - meatpie, veggies & dessert provided by Minden Lioness \$5, proceeds to Relay for Life

Monday - 14

- Monday Morning Walking Group, OEYC Minden, 10 am, start the week off by enjoying a walk along the boardwalk, down a nature trail or to the park, for parents and walking children or children in strollers, 705-286-1770
- Haliburton County Table Tennis Club, 6-9 pm, St. George's Church, 617 Mountain Street, Haliburton, Mary or Jeff Martin, 705-457-2260
- Celebrate Recovery, Lakeside Baptist Church, 7 - 10 pm,

admin@lakesidebaptist.ca

- Contract Bridge, Community Care, Haliburton, 1 pm, 705-457-2941

Tuesday - 15

- "K" Days, OEYC Haliburton, school readiness in Kinder Corner & Circle Time for children starting Kindergarten in September, 705-457-2989
- Kids in the Kitchen, OEYC Haliburton, 705-457-2989
- Wii, Community Care, Haliburton, 9:30 am, 705-457-2941
- Yoga at the library, Howard Roberts Room, 4 pm to 5 pm, admission by donation

Wednesday - 16

- YWCA Visit, OEYC Haliburton, 10 am, learn more about what services the YWCA offers our community, 705-457-2989
- Trip to the Fire Hall, OEYC Minden, leaving OEYC at 10:15, walk to Minden Hills Fire Hall to learn about the fire trucks and fire safety, 705-286-1770
- Pickleball, Minden Community Centre, 9 am to 12 noon, equipment supplied, bring clean court/running shoes, contact Doug, 705-489-3850
- Community Drumming/Rhythm Circle, Rails End Gallery, 7:30 pm to 9 pm, 705-457-2330

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION?

HALIBURTON Branch 129 - 705-457-2571

- Wednesdays - 7 pm, Bingo
- Last Thursday of month - 1 pm, Ladies Auxiliary

MINDEN Branch 636 - 705-286-4541, rclbranch636@hotmail.com

- Wednesdays - lunch time Meat Draw
- Thursdays - 7:30 pm, Euchre

- Fridays - 5-7 pm, Fish & Chips Dinner

WILBERFORCE Branch

624 - 705-448-2221,

jandreamweaver@aol.com

- Saturday, May 12 - Lou Moody Rainbow Trout Derby - register at the Legion on May 11 or Fishes Lunch Box by 10 am, weigh in 3-6pm at the Legion
- Sunday, May 13 - 9-12 noon, LA

Breakfast

- Friday, May 18 - 5-7 pm, Spaghetti Dinner
- Mondays - 7 pm, Bid Euchre
- Wednesdays - 7:30 pm, Darts
- Fridays - 1:30 pm, Pool; 6 pm, Pot Luck Supper; 7 pm, Jam Session
- Saturdays - 2 pm, Meat Draw; 9 pm Karaoke
- Sundays - 1-6 pm Free Pool, Retro Drink Prices

Veterans - if you require assistance completing any DVA forms, contact your local Legion Branch (membership not required) - we are here to assist you.

Email louise@haliburtonhighlander to have your local event advertised.

Highlander health



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Rethink poverty: the ongoing fight to overcome

By Lisa Harrison

In the fall of 2011, Minden food bank manager Joanne Barnes placed a classified ad for volunteers.

It's still running.

Barnes brought in 20 new volunteers, but given how busy all the volunteers are outside the food bank, they generally take one shift out of four each week and many go south in the winter.

And since its start in the late 1980s, the food bank has gone from 25 registered users to 275. Barnes said they average 100 to 125 families per month and that demand is always growing.

"We have a lot [of people] that are unemployed and a lot that are employed, but don't have enough hours. Even with two jobs you can't [make ends meet] if you're making \$10 an hour and the jobs are only 20 hours each. We don't have cheap rent here or not cheap enough," she said.

The Haliburton 4Cs food bank is managing with their current roster of volunteers right now, said director Judy MacDuff. Their numbers stand at more than 40 volunteers and 15 volunteer directors, with most of the volunteers working in the Lily Ann Thrift Store next door.

However, they recorded 105 families using their services in March and demand is growing there as well.

According to Rosie Kadwell, Public Health Dietitian with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR), one of the biggest stumbling blocks to eliminating poverty is the stigma that still exists. The other is lack of knowledge.

The health unit has developed the Rethink Poverty program to combat both. Rethink Poverty information is available on the HKPR website (www.hkpr.on.ca). According to statistics on the site, poverty costs every household in Ontario from \$2,300 to \$2,900 annually.

Other Rethink Poverty statistics show that the unemployment rate in the Muskoka-Kawartha region increased from 8.7 per cent in May 2010 to 9.3 per cent in May 2011, making it the second highest unemployment rate among all 11 economic regions in Ontario. Parents often go without food and/or medication so that their children can eat.

More families who are accessing the food banks in the county are the working poor.

And it's not just working-aged adults and their children who are living below the poverty level.

Kadwell said that Meals on Wheels volunteers in Haliburton discovered seniors with limited income and mobility sitting quietly at home without complaint – and with an empty fridge.

There is some good news in all of this: the food banks in the county, as well as several other organizations, businesses, health services groups and more, have formed Haliburton County FoodNet. It's a not-for-profit network set up to ensure that "all residents of Haliburton County have access to food and do not go hungry."

For example, through funding from FoodNet, those seniors now receive fresh, pre-cut fruit and vegetables from Foodland with their frozen dinners from Meals on Wheels.

"They're so appreciative," said Kadwell, who chairs FoodNet. "And some have said they can't remember the last time they've had fruit and vegetables."

Kadwell said that's FoodNet's purpose – to work together to develop original ideas to answer the question, "What is it we can collectively do" to ensure food security in the county?

There are three strategies to addressing food security in the county, according to Kadwell. The first is what one could call "charity type of work" that addresses emergency, short-term needs. The second strategy is to build additional capacity through industry and the community. The third strategy is systemic change, such as policy development and it involves community members, stakeholders and politicians.

Kadwell said food banks do an "excellent job" in the first strategy, for which they were originally designed. The intent was that they be used only once per month, but she said often people now must depend on food banks to stretch their dollars, while many in the community think the issue is resolved.

Even before FoodNet began, organizations throughout the county were collaborating to provide services for those dealing with poverty.

Now with FoodNet, organizations such as SIRCH, Point in Time, the Food for Kids student nutrition program and more can find even greater benefits from the collaborative power of a network.

But the need is still there and it's growing.

Haliburton food bank volunteer David Ogilvie is an example of how to help – he and his wife moved here a couple of years ago and he wanted to get involved in the community.

"It's been great," said Ogilvie, who is a food bank director.

"If it wasn't for our volunteers...we wouldn't be able to do a quarter of what we do," said Haliburton food bank director Rose Barry.

For more information on how you can help, visit Rethink Poverty on the HKPR website www.hkpr.on.ca or go to the FoodNet website at www.fyi.haliburton.com/foodnet. You can also call your local food bank.

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